REVIEW OF THE GENUS PLECOTREMA.

By E. R. Sykes, B.A., F.Z.S.

The generic synonymy of this rather artificial genus of molluses appears to be as follows:—

1854. Plecotrema, H. and A. Adams, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853, p. 120.

1855. , , , , Genera of Recent Mollusca, vol. ii. p. 240.

1856. , Pfeiffer, Mon. Auric., p. 99.

1857. , , , Auric. Mus. Brit., p. 75.

1876. , , Mon. Auric. (Mon Pneum. Viv. Supp.), p. 343.

1837. ? Lirator, Beck, Index Moll., p. 103.

1846. Læmodonta, Philippi, Zeitsch. für Malak., 98.

1847. Laimodonta, Bronn, Preissver. Ausl. Konch. Mus. Heidel., iv. p. 4.
? Laimodonta, Nuttall MS. (non H. and A. Adams).

None of the names proposed by Beck, Philippi, or Bronn can, in my opinion, be used; the first, since it is unidentifiable, and the others because they were not described. The type, as proposed by Messrs. Adams, is *P. typicum*, H. and A. Adams. One feature on which these authors laid especial stress when founding the genus, namely, that single columellar plait is bifid, does not appear to be even specifically constant, but it is so convenient a group that it will probably, for the present, continue to be used. The recent distribution appears to be confined to Fischer's Indo-Paeific province. The genus first appears in the Calcaire Grossier de Mons (the equivalent of our lowermost Eccene); and it is interesting to note that the oldest species are smooth shells, while in the Miocene the sculptured species make their appearance, and at the present time hardly a recent form is without

well-marked sculpture.

Our only knowledge of the animal appears to be a description of its

external appearance by Harper Pease.2

Considerable difficulty has been caused in identifying the species owing to the brevity of the Messrs. Adams' original descriptions, as well as by the lack of figures and dimensions. Pfeiffer, in his works, appears to have elaborated the Messrs. Adams' descriptions from the specimens in the Cuming Collection in the British Museum—from which their species were originally described—without in all cases verifying the tablets to see that they were correctly named. I have not tried to

Derived from πλέκος, τρῆμα; the neuter termination has therefore been used.
 Proc. Zool. Soc. 1869, p. 59.

sub-group the species; Pfeiffer attempted to do so and made them into three sections—(a) with the umbilicus open; (b) rather imperforate; (c) aberrant species. The border-line between (a) and (b),

and the use of such a definition as (c) I fail to grasp.

M. Degrange-Touzin, making use of a manuscript name of Dr. Boettger's, has 'formed a new genus, *Proplecotrema*, with type *P. marginale*, Grat., to contain smooth fossil species. This would also include P. antiquum, P. ovale, P. turbiniforme, and P. conicum. I regard this genus as unnecessary, and so do not recognize it. There is an interesting note on the subject of the absorption of the internal whorls by Crosse and Fischer.²

The recent species are as follows:—

1. P. decussatum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853 (1854), p. 121.

They give the locality as the Philippines, but the tablet has now

no label.

2. P. striatum, Philippi. Zeitsch. für Malak. 1846, p. 98.

The synonyms are ? Laimodonta striata, Nuttall MS., P. inaquale, C. B. Ad. MS., P. labrellum, H. and A. Ad. (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853, p. 122, non Auricula labrella, Deshayes).

Hab.—Sandwich Is. (Nuttall); Rapa Is., I. of Negros, and Borneo

(Mus. Cuming); Oahu (Pease).

3. P. bicolor, Pfeiffer. Mon. Auric. 1856, p. 104.

This may prove to be P. striatum, Phil.: from the types, however, it seems to differ in that its mouth, both by size and position of teeth, is more closed; the umbilical chink is smaller; and it has a lighter zone under the periphery, while P. striatum is generally the same colour all over.

Hab.—Port Jackson (Mus. Cuming).

4. P. hirsutum, Garrett. Amer. Journ. Conch. vii. 1872, p. 219.

Hab.—Viti Is. (Garrett). Allied to P. striatum, Phil.

5. P. octanfractum, Jonas. Zeitsch. für Malak. 1845, p. 169.

I place P. clausum, H. and A. Adams (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853, p. 121), with some doubt as a synonym of this species. There are two tablets labelled P. clausum in the Cuming Collection: one is P. striatum, Phil., and the other P. octanfractum. Of this latter tablet one has been figured by Pfeiffer 3 under the name of P. clausum. Pease records 4 P. clausum from Hawaii, and states that his specimens agree rather with the Messrs. Adams' description than Pfeiffer's; his shells therefore are probably P. striatum. P. consobrinum, Garrett, is also a synonym.

Hab.—New Caledonia and Savage Is. (Brenchley), Paumotu, Fiji, and Gambier Is. (Garrett), Port Jackson (Brazier), Borneo (Everett),

Act. Soc. Linn. Bordeaux, vol. xlv. (1893), p. 157.
 Journ. de Conch. xxx. (1883) pp. 171-181, pl. viii.; abstract in Journ. R. Micro. Soc. iv. (1884) pp. 730-731.
 Novit. Conch. i. p. 15, t. 5, figs. 9-11.
 Proc. Zool. Soc. 1871, p. 469.
 Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. 1873, p. 236.

I. of Sibuyan, I. of Cebu, Cagayan, I. of Mindanao, etc. (Hidalgo); as P. clausum, Hawaii (Baldwin and Pease), Mauritius, Seychelles and Andaman Is. (Nevill), Bombay (Fairbank), Australia (e. Coll. As. Soc. Bengal), Taviuni (Mus. Godeffroy).

6. P. moniliferum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853

(1854), p. 120.

The authors give no locality, but the tablet is now labelled "Borneo." 7. P. punctatostriatum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853 (1854), p. 121.

Hab. - Borneo (Everett), Macau (Möllendorff). Messrs. Adams

give "Borneo," but the tablet is now labelled "Singapore."

8. P. exaratum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853 (1854),

p. 122.

The tablet bearing this name in the Cuming Collection consists of specimens of P. striatum, and even these specimens do not agree with Messrs. Adams' vague original diagnosis. Probably the species must be given up as unidentifiable.

Hab.—Borneo (Mus. Cuming).

9. P. bellum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1854 (1855), p. 37.

The synonyms are:—

1862. P. Souverbiei, Montrouzier. Souverbie in Journ. de Conch. x. p. 246.

1867. P. exiguum, H. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1867, p. 307.

Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. 1873, 1873. P. turritum, Garrett. p. 235.

Nevill named a variety compressiuscula, from Burma (Hungerford). There is a specimen in the British Museum from Mauritius, resembling in form P. striatum, which is, in sculpture and position of teeth, closely allied to P. bellum; it appears to be distinct, but I forbear to describe it from a single specimen. It may be the "new sp." recorded,2 but not described, by Nevill from the Seychelles.

Hab.—Mauritius (Nevill fide H. Adams); as P. Souverbiei, New Caledonia (Garrett and Gassies), Andaman Is. (Nevill), Mayotte (Marie), Viti, Paumotu, and Gambier Is. (Garrett); as P. turritum, Taviuni (Garrett). Messrs. Adams give "Philippines," but the tablet

is now labelled "Mauritius."

10. P. rapax, Dohrn. Malak. Blatt. 1859, p. 204.

Nevill named³ a variety minor, from Ross I., Andamans (Wood-

Mason).

Hab.—Tahiti (Vesco), I. of Anaa (Pease), Massau (Issel), Aden (Stoliczka and Nevill), Lohëiyah (Jousseaume), Annesley Bay (W. T. Blanford), Bombay (Fairbank).

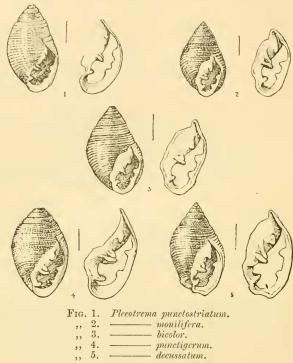
11. P. mordax, Dohrn. Malak. Blatt. 1859, p. 204.

¹ Hand List Ind. Mus. pt. i. 1878, p. 223.

Proc. Zool. Soc. 1869, p. 66.
 Hand List Ind. Mus. pt. i. 1878, p. 224.

There is a variety producta, Nevill, from Annesley Bay (W. T. Blanford). These last two species are probably identical; I do not unite them, as I have not seen authentic specimens.

Hab.—Arabia (Wilke), Massau, etc. (Jickeli), Nossi-Comba (Marie).



These figures are drawn from specimens on the type tablets of the Cumingian Collection in the British Museum (Natural History).

P. typicum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853 (1854),
 p. 120.

The synonymy, in my opinion, includes both *P. liratum* and *P. concinnum*, which were described in the same paper as *P. typicum*; they appear only to vary in the size of the umbilicus, which is not even constant in the type tablet of *P. typicum*. Mr. Brazier has suggested that they may be forms of *P. octanfractum*, but from the specimens I have seen I should place them here.

Hab.—Pulo Penang (Mus. Cuming), I. of Sibuyan, Cagayan, I. of Mindanao, etc. (Hidalgo), New Caledonia (Gassies); as P. liratum, Moreton Bay (Mus. Cuming), New Caledonia and Savage Is. (Brenchley); as P. concinnum, Moreton Bay (Mus. Cuming), Port Jackson, Tambourine Bay, Hunters Bay, Bantry Bay (Brazier), Borneo (Everett).

13. P. Binneyi, Crosse. Journ. de Conch. xv. (1867), p. 448.

Hab.—Peron Peninsula, W. Australia (Bryce Wright).

14. P. Siamense, Morelet. Sér. Conch. iv. (1875), p. 273.

Hab.—Siam (Morelet).

15. P. punctigerum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853 (1854), p. 120.

Dr. Möllendorff describes a var. major from Macau.

Hab.—Borneo, Vizagapatam (Mus. Cuming), Singapore (Pfeiffer), Siam (Morelet), Vaico, Cochinchina (Crosse and Fischer), Macau, Swatow (Möllendorff).

16. P. imperforatum, H. and A. Adams. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1853

(1854), p. 120.

I regret to have to unite P. Cumingianum, W. T. Blanford, with this species, of which the original specimens are execrable, but I am unable to see any distinction between them.

Hab. — Mindanao (Hidalgo), I. of Negros (Mus. Cuming); as

P. Cumingianum, Irawady Delta (Blanford).

17. P. minutum, Möllendorff. Jahrb. Deutsch. Malak. Gesel. xii. (1885), p. 351.

Hab.—Hong-Kong (Hungerford and Schmacker).

18. P. Cubense, Pfeiffer. Malak. Blatt. 1854, p. 153.

Hab.—Cardenas, I. of Cuba (Pfeiffer), Havana, Matanzas, etc. (Arango).

19. P. ciliatum, Tate. Proc. Roy. Soc. S. Austral. vol. ii. (1879),

p. 135, pl. v. fig. 7.

Hab.—Port Adelaide, Streaky Bay, S. Australia (Tate).
Dr. von Möllendorff has described a Cassidula plecotrematoides, which, but for his opinion to the contrary, I should have placed in Plecotrema.

The few fossil species with which I am acquainted are as follows:—

20. P. antiquum, nom. nov.

Synonym: P. minuta, Briart and Cornet (Mém. Acad. R. Belg. 1889, xlvii. p. 101), non Möllendorff (1885),

Form. et loc.—Calcaire Grossier at Mons.

21. P. ovale, Briart and Cornet. Mém. Acad. R. Belg. 1889, xlvii. p. 102.

Form. et loc.—Calcaire Grossier at Mons.

22. P. turbiniforme, Briart and Cornet. Mém. Acad. R. Belg. 1889, xlvii. p. 102.

Form. et loc.—Calcaire Grossier at Mons.

23. P. conicum, Briart and Cornet. Mém. Acad. R. Belg. 1889, xlvii. p. 104.

I leave this and the last species in Plecotrema with some doubt, but

¹ Jahrb. Deutsch. Malak. Gesel. xii. p. 351.

Journ. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, xxxvi. (1867) p. 65, pl. ii. fig. 16.
 Vols. i. and ii. of this work appear to have escaped the notice of Prof. von Martens when working at the Zoological Record. ⁴ Jahrb. Deutsch. Malak. Gesel. xii. p. 352, pl. ix. fig. C.

as they were so described, and I only know them from figures and descriptions, I do not like to remove them.

Form. et loc.—Calcaire Grossier at Mons.

24. P. distensum, Briart and Cornet. Mém. Acad. R. Belg. 1889, xlvii. p. 96.

Described as a Pythia, but I consider it a Plecotrema despite its

varices.

Form. et loc.-Calcaire Grossier at Mons.

25. P. Callibasis (Des Moulins MS), Tournouër. Journ. de Conch. 1871, xix. p. 361.

Form. et loc.—Miocene at Martillac, etc.

26. P. marginale, Grateloup, 1838. Act. Soc. Linn. Bordeaux, x. p. 255.

Form. et loc.—Miocene at Saint-Paul, Mainot, Martillae, etc.

27. P. Bourgeoisi, Tournouër. Journ. de Conch. 1870, xviii. p. 356.

Form, et loc.—Miocene at Pont-Levoy.

28. P. Blesene, Tournouër. Journ. de Conch. 1870, xviii. p. 357. I leave this and the last in Plecotrema, with some doubt.

Form. et loc. - Miocene at Pont-Levoy.

Mons. Tournouër also places his *P. Delaunayi*¹ in this group, but I do not think it properly belongs here. Probably several other fossil species are known, which, though congeneric with the above, have been placed in different groups.

¹ Journ. de Conch. 1870, xviii. p. 357.